GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1424
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
BIOSPHERE RESERVES
Barman Shri Hiten;Barman Shri Ranen;Mahato Shri Narahari

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of biosphere reserves in the country;

(b) the details of funds allocated to each of these reserves during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Nanda Devi has been declared as a biosphere reserve; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a): The total number of biosphere reserves in the country is fifteen.

(b): The details of funds allocated to each of these reserves during the last three years and the current year are at Annexure.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d): The reasons for declaring Nanda Devi as a biosphere reserve include the following:

To conserve the diversity and integrity of plants and animals within natural ecosystems.

To safeguard genetic diversity of species on which their continuing evolution depends.

To provide areas for multi-faceted research and monitoring.

To provide facilities for education and training.

To ensure sustainable use of natural resources through most appropriate technology for improvement of economic well being of local people.